UNITED
NATIONS

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Economic and Social
Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.4/1991/8
22 October 1990

ENGLISH
Original: ARABIC

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Forty-seventh session
Item 4 of the provisional agenda

QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES, INCLUDING PALESTINE

Letter dated 2 October 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires of the Permanent Mission of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights

I have the honour to enclose herewith a memorandum of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaisons and International Co-operation on the savage acts perpetrated by the Zionist forces against the Palestinian people in the Bureij Camp in the Gaza Strip.

I would be grateful if this memorandum could be issued as an official document under item (4) of the provisional agenda of the forty-seventh session of the Commission on Human Rights.

(Signed) Ibrahim Abdul-Aziz OMAR
Chargé d'affaires

GE.90-13690/8206A

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Note on the barbaric acts that are being committed by the Zionist occupation forces at Bureij camp in the Gaza Strip in occupied Palestine

1. You are no doubt monitoring the barbaric acts that the Zionist occupation forces have committed during the last few days in occupied Palestine, particularly at Bureij camp in the Gaza Strip. Under cover of darkness, those forces have used bulldozers and military transport vehicles to destroy dozens of homes and shops belonging to Palestinian Arabs, as well as the sole fuel depot at that camp. They have also served notice on 20 other Palestinians to vacate their shops in preparation for their demolition.

2. It came as no surprise that the Zionist Supreme Court gave its blessing to those criminal acts and promptly approved the continued demolition of Palestinian homes and shops at Bureij camp, nor was it surprising that a number of members of the Knesset's Committee on Foreign and Security Affairs called for the imposition of collective punishments on the population of Bureij camp. The Zionist authorities also naturally refused permission for UNRWA representatives to assess the damage caused by these demolition operations.

3. As a result of these criminal acts, dozens of Palestinian families were left homeless and without shelter. One of the owners of the fuel depot that was demolished at Bureij camp was taken to a military hospital after being subjected to torture at Ansar 2 detention centre. The Zionist authorities also expelled dozens of residents from the camp, placed a number of other camps under curfew and blockaded the churches at Beit Sahur. Moreover, the secondary school in the village of Jamma'in was attacked by Zionist forces using automatic weapons and a large quantity of gas grenades.

4. The sole purpose of the arbitrary measures that the Zionist occupation forces are taking every day is the mass elimination of the Palestinians, so that they can be supplanted by the Jewish immigrants from Eastern Europe.

5. This course of conduct, which violates all international covenants and conventions, reflects the racist nature of zionism and of the régime which it has established in occupied Palestine and which is pursuing the policy of "transfer", i.e. the mass expulsion of Palestinian Arabs from their homeland and the exertion of pressure to induce Jews to leave their home countries and settle in Palestine. The international community, as represented by its international organizations, should realize these facts, which are evident to all, and should put an end to these racist, terrorist practices.